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Crandall

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## [54] METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PUBLIC KEY EXCHANGE IN A CRYPTOGRAPHIC SYSTEM

[75] Inventor: Richard E. Crandall, Portland, Oreg.

[73] Assignee: NeXT Computer, Inc., Redwood City, Calif.

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### Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 761,276, Sep. 17, 1991, Pat. No. 5,159,632.

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup> ..... H04L 9/06

[52] U.S. Cl. .... 380/28; 380/30

[58] Field of Search ..... 380/28, 30

### [56] References Cited

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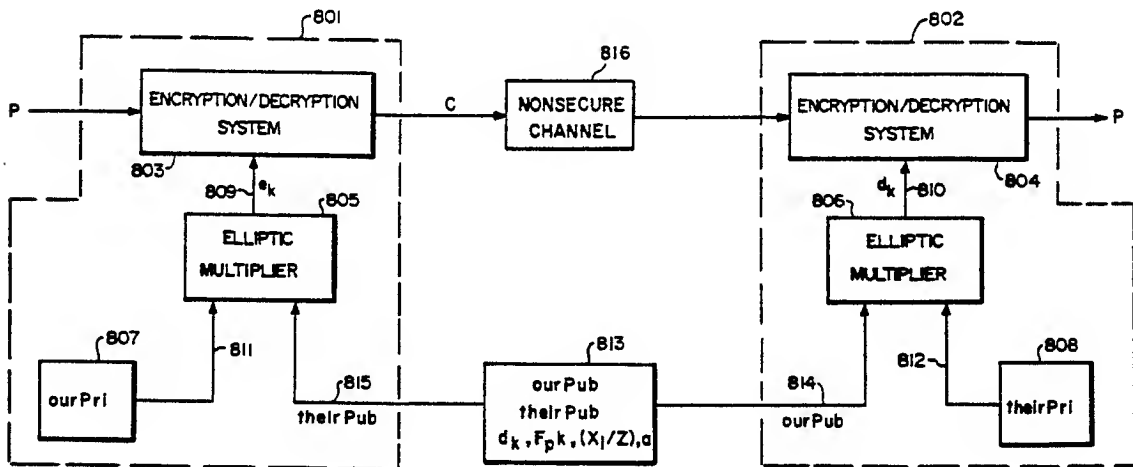
Primary Examiner—Salvatore Cangialosi

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Hecker &amp; Harriman

## [57] ABSTRACT

The present invention is an elliptic curve cryptosystem that uses elliptic curves defined over finite fields comprised of special classes of numbers. Special fast classes of numbers are used to optimize the modulo arithmetic required in the enciphering and deciphering process. The class of numbers used in the present invention is generally described by the form  $2^q - C$  where  $C$  is an odd number and is relatively small, for example, no longer than the length of a computer word (16–32 bits). When a number is of this form, modulo arithmetic can be accomplished using shifts and adds only, eliminating the need for costly divisions. One subset of this fast class of numbers is known as “Mersenne” primes, and are of the form  $2^q - 1$ . Another class of numbers that can be used with the present invention are known as “Fermat” numbers of the form  $2^{2^q} + 1$ . The present invention system whose level of security is tunable.  $q$  acts as an encryption bit depth parameter, such that larger values of  $q$  provide increased security. Inversion operations normally require an elliptic curve algebra can be avoided by selecting an inversionless parameterization of the elliptic curve. Fast Fourier transform for an FFT multiply mod operations optimized for efficient Mersenne arithmetic, allow the calculations of very large  $q$  to proceed more quickly than with other schemes.

19 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



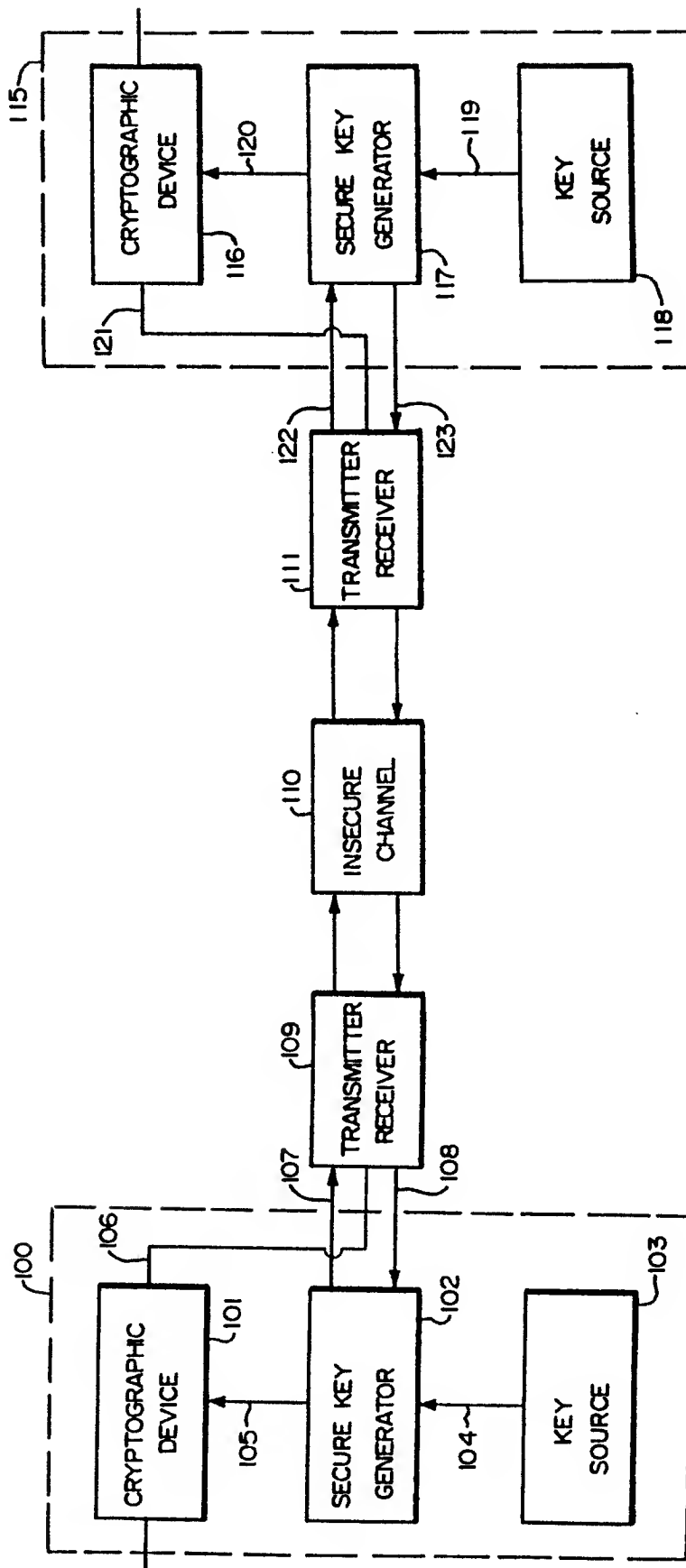
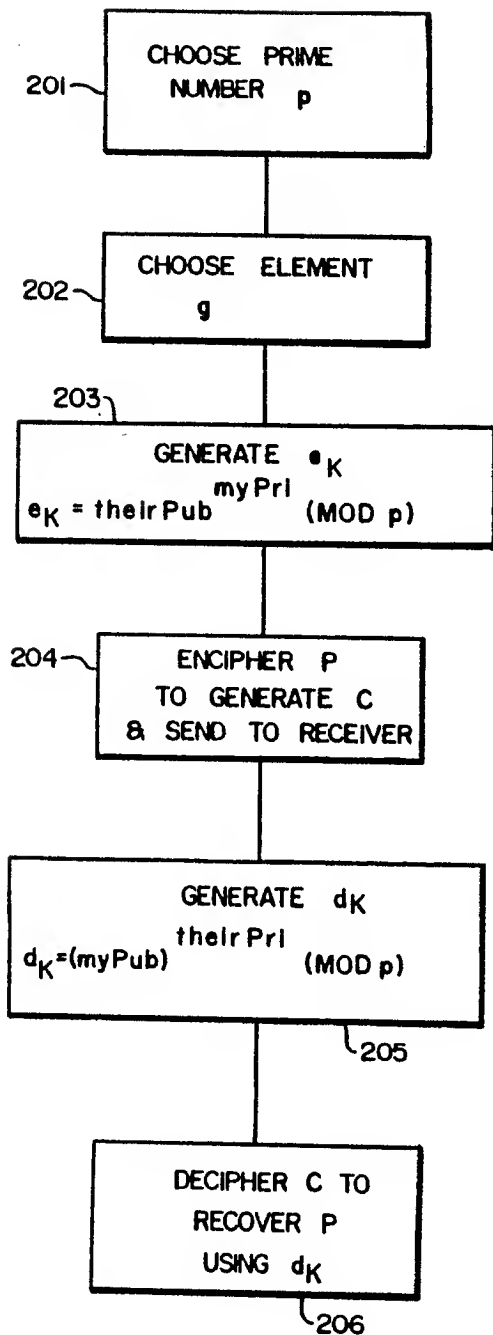
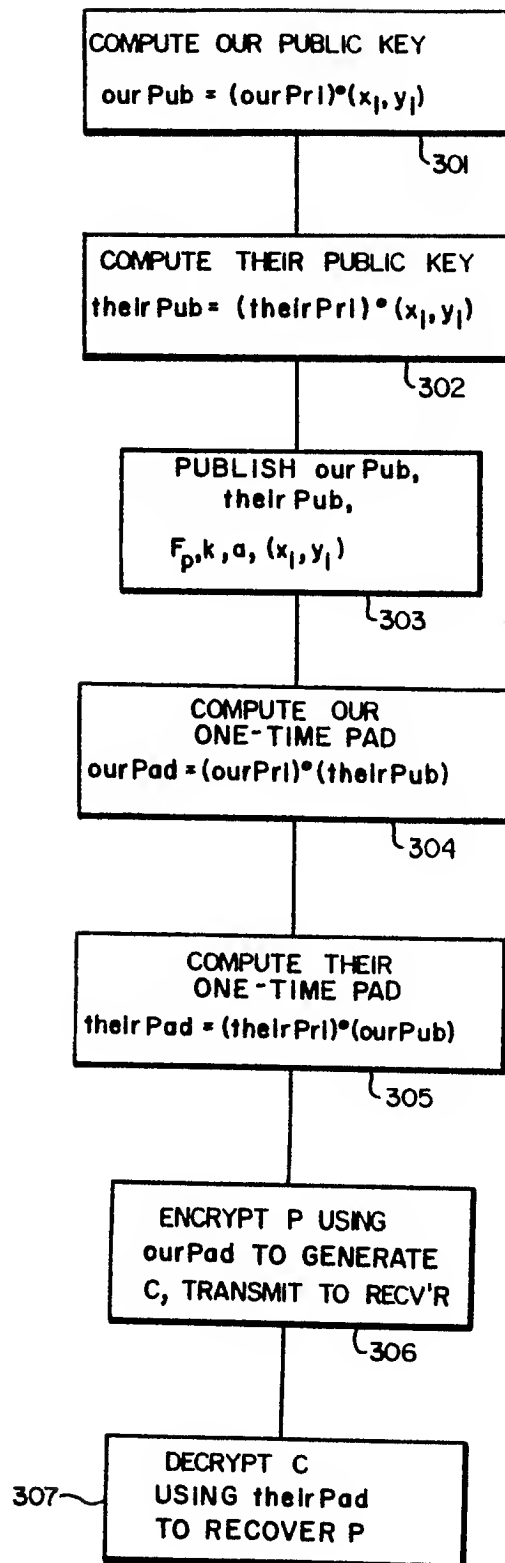


FIG. 1  
(PRIOR ART)



**FIG. 2**  
(PRIOR ART)



**FIG. 3**

FIG. 4

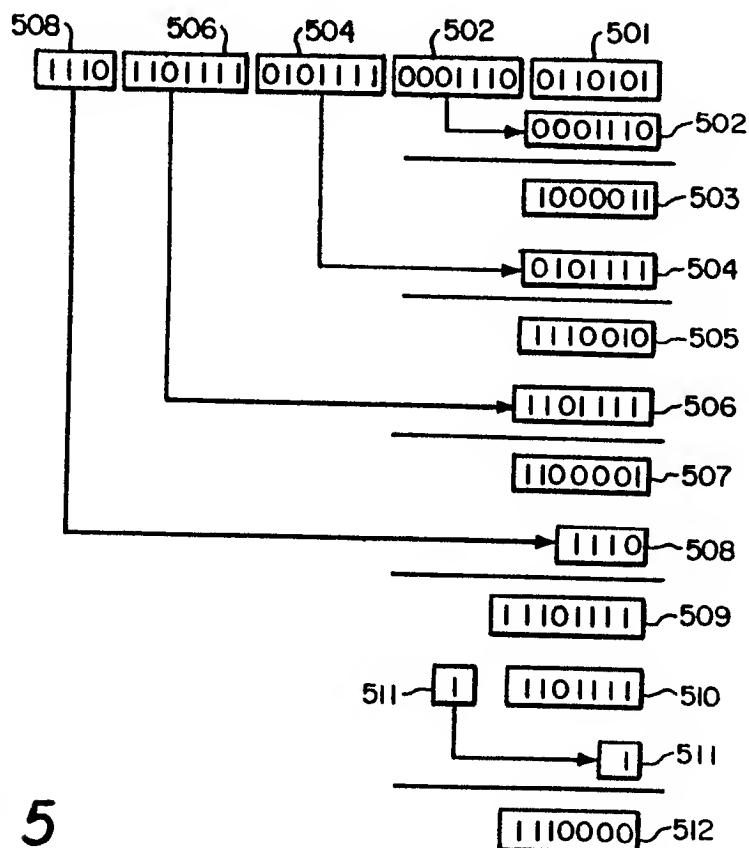
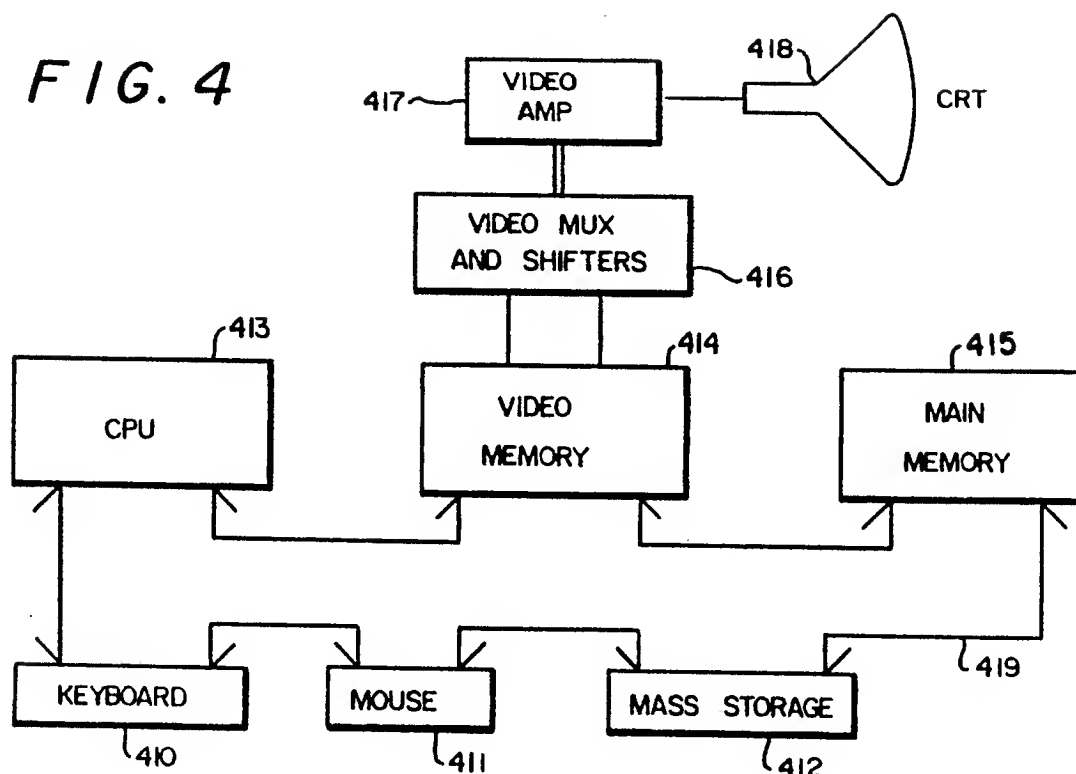


FIG. 5

FIG. 6

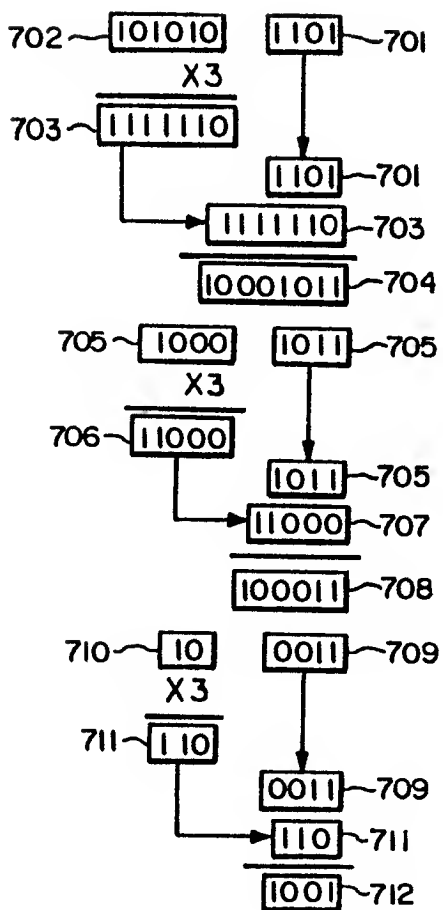


FIG. 7

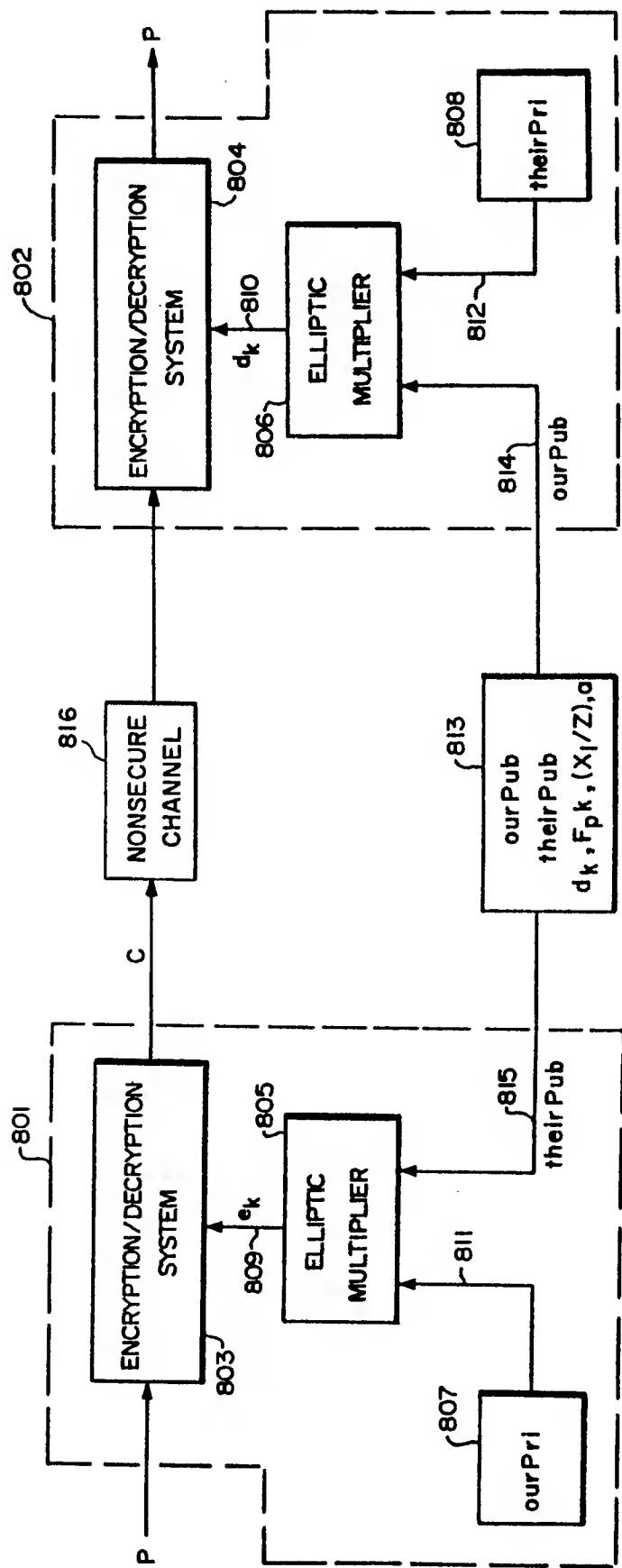


FIG. 8

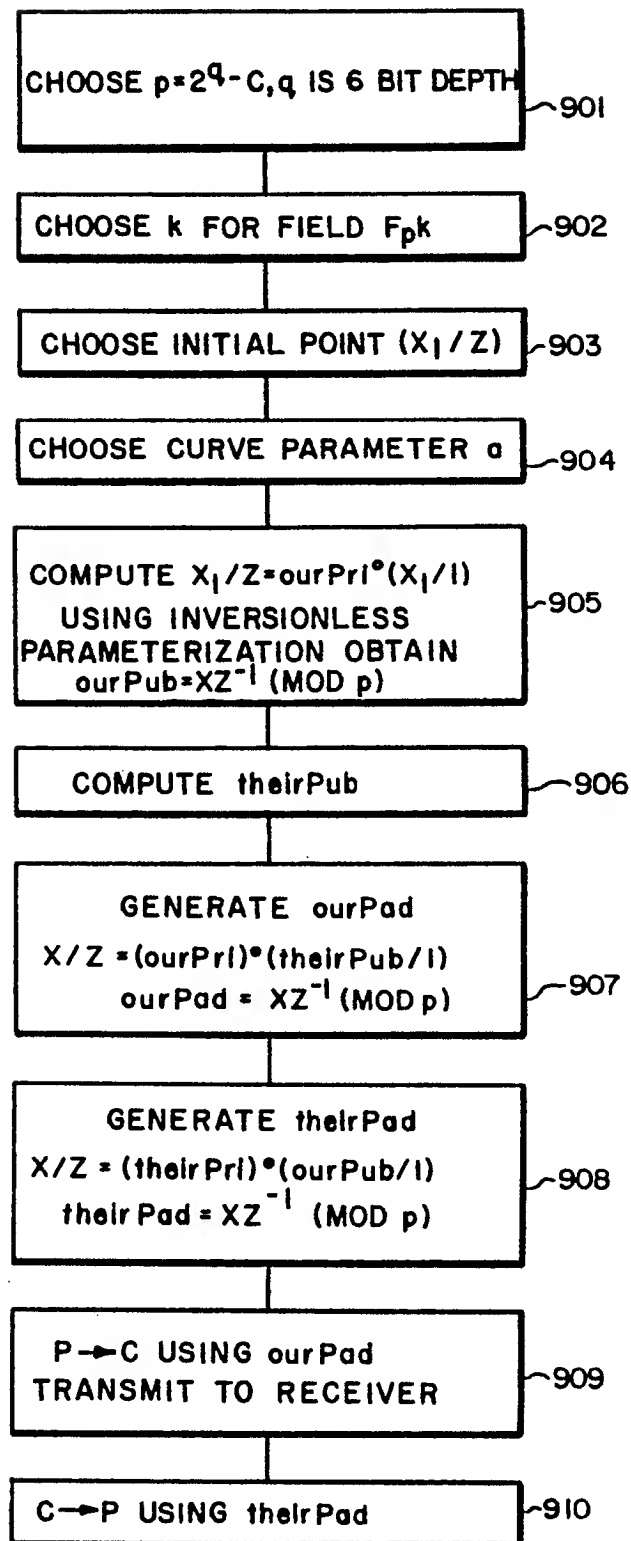


FIG. 9

## METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PUBLIC KEY EXCHANGE IN A CRYPTOGRAPHIC SYSTEM

This is a continuation of application Ser. No. 761,276, filed Sep. 17, 1991 now U.S. Pat. No. 5,159,632.

### BACKGROUND OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

#### 1. Field of the Invention

This invention relates to the field of cryptographic systems.

#### 2. Background Art

A cryptographic system is a system for sending a message from a sender to a receiver over a medium so that the message is "secure", that is, so that only the intended receiver can recover the message. A cryptographic system converts a message, referred to as "plaintext" into an encrypted format, known as "ciphertext." The encryption is accomplished by manipulating or transforming the message using a "cipher key" or keys. The receiver "decrypts" the message, that is, converts it from ciphertext to plaintext, by reversing the manipulation or transformation process using the cipher key or keys. So long as only the sender and receiver have knowledge of the cipher key, such an encrypted transmission is secure.

A "classical" cryptosystem is a cryptosystem in which the enciphering information can be used to determine the deciphering information. To provide security, a classical cryptosystem requires that the enciphering key be kept secret and provided to users of the system over secure channels. Secure channels, such as secret couriers, secure telephone transmission lines, or the like, are often impractical and expensive.

A system that eliminates the difficulties of exchanging a secure enciphering key is known as "public key encryption." By definition, a public key cryptosystem has the property that someone who knows only how to encipher a message cannot use the enciphering key to find the deciphering key without a prohibitively lengthy computation. An enciphering function is chosen so that once an enciphering key is known, the enciphering function is relatively easy to compute. However, the inverse of the encrypting transformation function is difficult, or computationally infeasible, to compute. Such a function is referred to as a "one way function" or as a "trap door function." In a public key cryptosystem, certain information relating to the keys is public. This information can be, and often is, published or transmitted in a non-secure manner. Also, certain information relating to the keys is private. This information may be distributed over a secure channel to protect its privacy, (or may be created by a local user to ensure privacy).

A block diagram of a typical public key cryptographic system is illustrated in FIG. 1. A sender represented by the blocks within dashed line 100 sends a plaintext message P to a receiver, represented by the blocks within dashed line 115. The plaintext message is encrypted into a ciphertext message C, transmitted over some transmission medium and decoded by the receiver 115 to recreate the plaintext message P.

The sender 100 includes a cryptographic device 101, a secure key generator 102 and a key source 103. The key source 103 is connected to the secure key generator 102 through line 104. The secure key generator 102 is coupled to the cryptographic device 101 through line 105. The cryptographic device provides a ciphertext

output C on line 106. The secure key generator 102 provides a key output on line 107. This output is provided, along with the ciphertext message 106, to transmitter receiver 109. The transmitter receiver 109 may be, for example, a computer transmitting device such as a modem or it may be a device for transmitting radio frequency transmission signals. The transmitter receiver 109 outputs the secure key and the ciphertext message on an insecure channel 110 to the receiver's transmitter receiver 111.

The receiver 115 also includes a cryptographic device 116, a secure key generator 117 and a key source 118. The key source 118 is coupled to the secure key generator 117 on line 119. The secure key generator 117 is coupled to the cryptographic device 116 on line 120. The cryptographic device 116 is coupled to the transmitter receiver 111 through line 121. The secure key generator 117 is coupled to the transmitter receiver 111 on lines 122 and 123.

In operation, the sender 100 has a plaintext message P to send to the receiver 115. Both the sender 100 and the receiver 115 have cryptographic devices 101 and 116, respectively, that use the same encryption scheme. There are a number of suitable cryptosystems that can be implemented in the cryptographic devices. For example, they may implement the Data Encryption Standard (DES) or some other suitable encryption scheme.

Sender and receiver also have secure key generators 102 and 117, respectively. These secure key generators implement any one of several well known public key exchange schemes. These schemes, which will be described in detail below, include the Diffie-Hellman scheme, the RSA scheme, the Massey-Omura scheme, and the ElGamal scheme.

The sender 100 uses key source 103, which may be a random number generator, to generate a private key. The private key is provided to the secure key generator 102 and is used to generate an encryption key  $e_K$ . The encryption key  $e_K$  is transmitted on lines 105 to the cryptographic device and is used to encrypt the plaintext message P to generate a ciphertext message C provided on line 106 to the transmitter receiver 109. The secure key generator 102 also transmits the information used to convert to the secure key from key source 103 to the encryption key  $e_K$ . This information can be transmitted over an insecure channel, because it is impractical to recreate the encryption key from this information without knowing the private key.

The receiver 115 uses key source 118 to generate a private and secure key 119. This private key 119 is used in the secure key generator 117 along with the key generating information provided by the sender 100 to generate a deciphering key  $D_K$ . This deciphering key  $D_K$  is provided on line 120 to the cryptographic device 116 where it is used to decrypt the ciphertext message and reproduce the original plaintext message.

### THE DIFFIE-HELLMAN SCHEME

A scheme for public key exchange is presented in Diffie and Hellman, "New Directions in Cryptography," IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory, vol. IT-22, pp. 644-654, November 1976 (The "DH" scheme). The DH scheme describes a public key system based on the discrete exponential and logarithmic functions. If "q" is a prime number and "a" is a primitive element, then X and Y are in a 1:1 correspondence for  $1 \leq X, Y \leq (q-1)$  where  $Y = a^X \bmod q$ , and  $X = \log_a Y$  over the finite field. The first discrete exponential function is easily evalu-

ated for a given  $a$  and  $X$ , and is used to compute the public key  $Y$ . The security of the Diffie-Hellman system relies on the fact that no general, fast algorithms are known for solving the discrete logarithm function  $X = \log_a Y$  given  $X$  and  $Y$ .

In a Diffie-Hellman system, a directory of public keys is published or otherwise made available to the public. A given public key is dependent on its associated private key, known only to a user. However, it is not feasible to determine the private key from the public key. For example, a sender has a public key, referred to as "ourPub". A receiver has a public key, referred to here as "theirPub". The sender also has a private key, referred to here as "myPri". Similarly, the receiver has a private key, referred to here as "theirPri".

There are a number of elements that are publicly known in a public key system. In the case of the Diffie-Hellman system, these elements include a prime number  $p$  and a primitive element  $g$ .  $p$  and  $g$  are both publicly known. Public keys are then generated by raising  $g$  to the private key power (mod  $p$ ). For example, a sender's public key myPub is generated by the following equation:

$$\text{myPub} = g^{\text{myPri}} \pmod{p} \quad \text{Equation (1)}$$

Similarly, the receiver's public key is generated by the equation:

$$\text{theirPub} = g^{\text{theirPri}} \pmod{p} \quad \text{Equation (2)}$$

Public keys are easily created using exponentiation and modulo arithmetic. As noted previously, public keys are easily obtainable by the public. They are published and distributed. They may also be transmitted over non-secure channels. Even though the public keys are known, it is very difficult to calculate the private keys by the inverse function because of the difficulty in solving the discrete log problem.

FIG. 2 illustrates a flow chart that is an example of a key exchange using a Diffie-Hellman type system. At step 201, a prime number  $p$  is chosen. This prime number  $p$  is public. Next, at step 202, a primitive root  $g$  is chosen. This number  $g$  is also publicly known. At step 203 an enciphering key  $e_K$  is generated, the receiver's public key (theirPub) is raised to the power of the sender's private key (myPri). That is:

$$(\text{theirPub})^{\text{myPri}} \pmod{p} \quad \text{Equation (3)}$$

We have already defined theirPub equal to  $g^{\text{theirPri}} \pmod{p}$ . Therefore Equation 3 can be given by:

$$(g^{\text{theirPri}})^{\text{myPri}} \pmod{p} \quad \text{Equation (4)}$$

This value is the enciphering key  $e_K$  that is used to encipher the plaintext message and create a ciphertext message. The particular method for enciphering or encrypting the message may be any one of several well known methods. Whichever encrypting message is used, the cipher key is the value calculated in Equation 4. The ciphertext message is then sent to the receiver at step 204.

At step 205, the receiver generates a deciphering key  $d_K$  by raising the public key of the sender (myPri) to the private key of the receiver (theirPri) as follows:

$$d_K = (\text{myPub})^{\text{theirPri}} \pmod{p} \quad \text{Equation (5)}$$

From Equation 1, myPub is equal to  $g^{\text{myPri}} \pmod{p}$ . Therefore:

$$d_K = (g^{\text{myPri}})^{\text{theirPri}} \pmod{p} \quad \text{Equation (6)}$$

Since  $(g^A)^B$  is equal to  $(g^B)^A$ , the encipher key  $e_K$  and the deciphering key  $d_K$  are the same key. These keys are referred to as a "one-time pad." A one-time pad is a key used in enciphering and deciphering a message.

The receiver simply executes the inverse of the transformation algorithm or encryption scheme using the deciphering key to recover the plaintext message at step 206. Because both the sender and receiver must use their private keys for generating the enciphering key, no other users are able to read or decipher the ciphertext message. Note that step 205 can be performed prior to or contemporaneously with any of steps 201-204.

### RSA

Another public key cryptosystem is proposed in Rivest, Shamir and Adelman, "On Digital Signatures and Public Key Cryptosystems," Commun. Ass. Comput. Mach., vol. 21, pp. 120-126, February 1978 (The "RSA" scheme). The RSA scheme is based on the fact that it is easy to generate two very large prime numbers and multiply them together, but it is much more difficult to factor the result, that is, to determine the very large prime numbers from their product. The product can therefore be made public as part of the enciphering key without comprising the prime numbers that effectively constitute the deciphering key.

In the RSA scheme a key generation algorithm is used to select two large prime numbers  $p$  and  $q$  and multiply them to obtain  $n=pq$ . The numbers  $p$  and  $q$  can be hundreds of decimal digits in length. Then Euler's function is computed as  $\phi(n)=(p-1)(q-1)$ . ( $\phi(n)$  is the number of integers between 1 and  $n$  that have no common factor with  $n$ ).  $\phi(n)$  has the property that for any integer  $a$  between 0 and  $n-1$  and any integer  $k$ ,  $a^{k\phi(n)+1} = a \pmod{n}$ .

A random number  $E$  is then chosen between 1 and  $\phi(n)-1$  and which has no common factors with  $\phi(n)$ . The random number  $E$  is the enciphering key and is public. This then allows  $D=E^{-1} \pmod{\phi(n)}$  to be calculated easily using an extended version of Euclid's algorithm for computing the greatest common divisor of two numbers.  $D$  is the deciphering key and is kept secret.

The information  $(E, n)$  is made public as the enciphering key and is used to transform unenciphered, plaintext messages into ciphertext messages as follows: a message is first represented as a sequence of integers each between 0 and  $n-1$ . Let  $P$  denote such an integer. Then the corresponding ciphertext integer is given by the relation  $C=P^E \pmod{n}$ . The information  $(D, n)$  is used as the deciphering key to recover the plaintext from the ciphertext via  $P=C^D \pmod{n}$ . These are inverse transformations because  $C^D = P^{ED} = P^{k\phi(n)+1} = P$ .

### MASSEY-OMURA

The Massey-Omura cryptosystem is described in U.S. Pat. No. 4,567,600. In the Massey cryptosystem, a finite field  $F_q$  is selected. The field  $F_q$  is fixed and is a publicly known field. A sender and a receiver each select a random integer  $e$  between 0 and  $q-1$  so that the greatest common denominator G.C.D. ( $e, q-1$ )=1. The user then computes its inverse  $D=e^{-1} \pmod{q-1}$  using the euclidian algorithm. Therefore,  $De=1 \pmod{q-1}$ .

The Massey-Omura cryptosystem requires that three messages be sent to achieve a secure transmission. Sender A sends message P to receiver B. Sender A calculates random number  $e_A$  and receiver B calculates random number  $e_B$ . The sender first sends the receiver the element  $P^{e_A}$ . The receiver is unable to recover P since the receiver does not know  $e_A$ . Instead, the receiver raises the element to his own private key  $e_B$  and sends a second message  $P^{e_A e_B}$  back to the sender. The sender then removes the effect of  $e_A$  by raising the element to the  $D_A$ -th power and returns  $P^{e_B}$  to the receiver B. The receiver B can read this message by raising the element to the  $D_B$ -th power.

### ELGAMAL CRYPTOSYSTEM

The ElGamal public key cryptosystem utilizes a publicly known finite field  $F_q$  and an element  $g$  of  $F_q^*$ . Each user randomly chooses an integer  $a = a_A$  in the range  $0 < a < q-1$ . The integer  $a$  is the private deciphering key. The public enciphering key is the element  $g^a F_q$ . To send a message represented by P to a user A, an integer K is randomly chosen. A pair of elements of  $F_q$ , namely  $(g^K, Pg^{aK})$  are sent to A. The plaintext message P is encrypted with the key  $g^{aK}$ . The value  $g^K$  is a "clue" to the receiver for determining the plaintext message P. However, this clue can only be used by someone who knows the secure deciphering key "a". The receiver A, who knows "a", recovers the message P from this pair by raising the first element  $g^{aK}$  and dividing the result into the second element.

### ELLIPTIC CURVES

Another form of public key cryptosystem is referred to as an "elliptic curve" cryptosystem. An elliptic curve cryptosystem is based on points on an elliptic curve E defined over a finite field F. Elliptic curve cryptosystems rely for security on the difficulty in solving the discrete logarithm problem. An advantage of an elliptic curve cryptosystem is there is more flexibility in choosing an elliptic curve than in choosing a finite field. Nevertheless, elliptic curve cryptosystems have not been widely used in computer-based public key exchange systems due to their computational intensiveness. Computer-based elliptic curve cryptosystems are slow compared to other computer public key exchange systems. Elliptic curve cryptosystems are described in "A Course in Number Theory and Cryptography" (Koblitz, 1987, Springer-Verlag, New York).

### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is an elliptic curve cryptosystem that uses elliptic curves defined over finite fields comprised of special classes of prime numbers. Special fast classes of numbers are used to optimize the modulo arithmetic required in the enciphering and deciphering process. The class of numbers used in the present invention is generally described by the form  $2^q - C$  where C is an odd number and is relatively small, (for example, no longer than the length of a computer word (16-32 bits)).

When a number is of this form, modulo arithmetic can be accomplished using shifts and adds only, eliminating the need for costly divisions. One subset of this fast class of numbers is known as "Mersenne" primes, and are of the form  $2^q - 1$ . To perform an  $n \bmod p$  operation where p is a Mersenne prime of the form  $2^q - 1$ , the q LSB's are latched and the remaining bits are added to these q bits. The first q bits of this sum are latched

and the remaining bits are added to them. This process continues until the sum has q or fewer bits. This sum is the solution.

Another class of numbers that can be used with the present invention are known as "Fermat" numbers of the form  $2^{2^m} + 1$ , where q is equal to  $2^m$  and m is an integer. Modulo arithmetic using a Fermat number involves shifting q bits and alternately subtracting and adding next successive groups of q bits until the resultant has q or fewer bits.

The present invention provides a system that has tunable levels of security, that is the level of security desired is adjustable. q acts as an encryption bit depth parameter, such that larger values of q provide increased security. By using a fast class of numbers, only shifts and adds are required for modulo arithmetic. Inversion operations normally require an elliptic curve algebra can be avoided by selecting an inversionless parameterization of the elliptic curve. Fast Fourier transform (FFT) multiply mod operations, optimized for efficient Mersenne arithmetic, allow the calculations of very large q to proceed more quickly than with other schemes.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a prior art public key exchange system.

FIG. 2 is a flow diagram of a prior art public key exchange transaction.

FIG. 3 is a flow diagram illustrating the key exchange of the present invention.

FIG. 4 is a block diagram of a computer system on which the present invention may be implemented.

FIG. 5 is a diagram illustrating the shift and add operations for performing mod p arithmetic using Mersenne primes.

FIG. 6 is a diagram illustrating the operations for performing mod p arithmetic using Fermat numbers.

FIG. 7 is a diagram illustrating the operations for performing mod p arithmetic using fast class numbers.

FIG. 8 is a block diagram of the present invention.

FIG. 9 is a flow diagram illustrating the operation of one embodiment of the present invention.

### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

An elliptic curve encryption scheme is described. In the following description, numerous specific details, such as number of bits, execution time, etc., are set forth in detail to provide a more thorough description of the present invention. It will be apparent, however, to one skilled in the art, that the present invention may be practiced without these specific details. In other instances, well known features have not been described in detail so as not to obscure the present invention.

A disadvantage of prior art computer-implemented elliptic curve encryption schemes is they are unsatisfactorily slow compared to other prior art computer-implemented encryption schemes. The modulo arithmetic and elliptical algebra operations required in a prior art elliptic curve cryptosystem require that divisions be performed. Divisions increase computer CPU (central processing unit) computational overhead. CPU's can perform addition and multiplication operations more quickly, and in fewer processing steps, than division operations. Therefore, prior art elliptic curve cryptosystems have not been previously practical or desir-

able as compared to other prior art cryptosystems, such as Diffie-Hellman and RSA schemes.

The present invention provides methods and apparatus for implementing an elliptic curve cryptosystem for public key exchange that does not require explicit division operations. The advantages of the preferred embodiment of the present invention are achieved by implementing fast classes of numbers, inversionless parameterization, and FFT multiply mod operations.

### ELLIPTIC CURVE ALGEBRA

The elliptic curve used with the present invention is comprised of points  $(x, y) \in F_{pk} \times F_{pk}$  satisfying:

$$b y^2 = x^3 + a x^2 + x \quad \text{Equation (7)}$$

together with a "point at infinity"  $a$ .

Sender ("our") and recipient ("their") private keys are assumed to be integers, denoted:

$$\text{ourPri}, \text{theirPri} \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Next, parameters are established for both sender and recipient. The parameters are:

$q$ , so that  $p = 2q - C$  is a fast class number ( $q$  is the "bit-depth"). The value  $q$  is a publicly known value.

$k$ , so that  $F_{pk}$  will be the field, and where  $k$  is publicly known.

$(x_1, y_1) \in F_{pk}$ , the initial  $x$ -coordinate, which is publicly known.

$a \in F_{pk}$ , the curve-defining parameter ( $b$  is not needed). The value  $a$  is also publicly known.

The present invention uses an operation referred to as "elliptic multiplication" and represented by the symbol  $\circ$ . The operation of elliptic multiplication can be described as follows:

An initial point  $(X_1, Y_1)$  on the curve of Equation 7 is defined. For the set of integers  $n$ , expression  $n \circ (X_1, Y_1)$  denotes the point  $(X_n, Y_n)$  obtained via the following relations, known as adding and doubling rules.

$$X_{n+1} = ((Y_n - Y_1)/(X_n - X_1))^2 - X_1 - X_n \quad \text{Equation (8)}$$

$$Y_{n+1} = -Y_1 + ((Y_n - Y_1)/(X_n - X_1))(X_1 - X_{n+1}) \quad \text{Equation (9)}$$

When  $(X_1, Y_1) = (X_n, Y_n)$ , the doubling relations to be used are:

$$X_{n+1} = ((3X_1^2 + a)/2Y_1)^2 - 2X_1; \quad \text{Equation (10)}$$

$$Y_{n+1} = -Y_1 + ((3X_1^2 + a)/2Y_1)(X_1 - X_{n+1}) \quad \text{Equation (11)}$$

Because arithmetic is performed over the field  $F_{pk}$ , all operations are to be performed mod  $p$ . In particular, the division operation in equations 8 to 11 involve inversions mod  $p$ .

### ELLIPTIC CURVE PUBLIC KEY EXCHANGE

It is necessary that both sender and recipient use the same set of such parameters. Both sender and recipient generate a mutual one-time pad, as a particular  $x$ -coordinate on the elliptic curve.

In the following description, the terms "our" and "our end" refer to the sender. The terms "their" and "their end" refer to the receiver. This convention is used because the key exchange of the present invention may be accomplished between one or more senders and one or more receivers. Thus, "our" and "our end" and

"their" and "their end" refers to one or more senders and receivers, respectively.

The public key exchange of the elliptic curve cryptosystem of the present invention is illustrated in the flow diagram of FIG. 3.

Step 301—At our end, a public key is computed:  $\text{ourPub} \in F_{pk}$

$$\text{ourPub} = (\text{ourPri})^*(x_1, y_1) \quad \text{Equation (12)}$$

Step 302—At their end, a public key is computed:  $\text{theirPub} \in F_{pk}$

$$\text{theirPub} = (\text{theirPri})^*(x_1, y_1) \quad \text{Equation (13)}$$

Step 303—The two public keys  $\text{ourPub}$  and  $\text{theirPub}$  are published, and therefore known to all users.

Step 304—A one-time pad is computed at our end:  $\text{ourPad} \in F_{pk}$

$$\text{ourPad} = (\text{ourPri})^*(\text{theirPub}) = (\text{ourPri})^*(\text{theirPri})^*(x_1, y_1) \quad \text{Equation (14)}$$

Step 305—A one-time pad is computed at their end:  $\text{theirPad} \in F_{pk}$

$$\text{theirPad} = (\text{theirPri})^*(\text{ourPub}) = (\text{theirPri})^*(\text{ourPri})^*(x_1, y_1) \quad \text{Equation (15)}$$

The elements  $(\text{theirPri})^*(\text{ourPri})^*(x_1, y_1)$  being part of a finite field, form an abelian group. Therefore, the order of operation of equations 14 and 15 can be changed without affecting the result of the equations. Therefore:

$$\text{ourPad} = (\text{ourPri})^*(\text{theirPri})^*(x_1, y_1) = (\text{theirPri})^*(\text{ourPri})^*(x_1, y_1) = \text{theirPad} \quad \text{Equation (16)}$$

Since both the sender and receiver use the same one time pad, the message encrypted by the sender can be decrypted by the recipient, using the one time pad. (Note that step 305 can be executed prior to or contemporaneously with any of steps 301-304).

At step 306, the sender encrypts plaintext message  $P$  using  $\text{ourPad}$ , and transmits ciphertext message  $C$  to the receiver. At step 307, the receiver decrypts ciphertext message  $C$  to recover plaintext message  $P$ , using  $\text{theirPad}$ .

### FAST CLASS NUMBERS

Elliptic curve cryptosystems make use of modulo arithmetic to determine certain parameters, such as public keys, one time pads, etc. The use of modulo arithmetic serves the dual purpose of limiting the number of bits in the results of equations to some fixed number, and providing security. The discrete log problem is asymmetrical in part because of the use of modulo arithmetic. A disadvantage of modulo arithmetic is the need to perform division operations. The solution to a modulo operation is the remainder when a number is divided by a fixed number. For example,  $12 \bmod 5$  is equal to 2. (5 divides into 12 twice with a remainder of 2, the remainder 2 is the solution). Therefore, modulo arithmetic requires division operations.

Special fast classes of numbers are used in the present invention to optimize the modulo arithmetic required in the enciphering and deciphering process by eliminating the need for division operations. The class of numbers used in the present invention is generally described by

the form  $2^q - C$  where  $C$  is an odd number and is relatively small, (e.g. no longer than the length of a computer word).

When a number is of this form, modulo arithmetic can be accomplished using shifts and adds only, eliminating the need for divisions. One subset of this fast class is known as "Mersenne" primes, and are of the form  $2^q - 1$ . Another class that can be used with the present invention are known as "Fermat" numbers of the form  $2^{2^m} + 1$ , where  $q$  is equal to  $2^m$ . Fermat numbers may be prime or not prime in the present invention.

The present invention utilizes elliptic curve algebra over a finite field  $F_{p^k}$  where  $p = 2^q - C$  and  $p$  is a fast class number. Note that the equation  $2^q - C$  does not result in a prime number for all values of  $q$ , and  $C$ . For example, when  $q$  is equal to 4, and  $C$  is equal to 1,  $2^q - C$  is equal to 15, not a prime. However, when  $q$  has a value of 2, 3, or 5, and  $C = 1$  the equation  $2^q - C$  generates the prime numbers 3, 7, and 31.

The present invention implements elliptic curves over a finite field  $F_{p^k}$  where  $p$  is  $2^q - C$  is an element of a fast class of numbers. When practiced on a computer using binary representations of data, the use of fast class numbers allows the mod  $p$  operations to be accomplished using only shifts and adds. By contrast, the use of "slow" numbers requires that time consuming division operations be executed to perform mod  $p$  arithmetic. The following examples illustrate the advantage of fast class number mod  $p$  arithmetic.

#### EXAMPLE 1

##### Base 10 mod $p$ division

Consider the 32 bit digital number  $n$ , where  $n = 11101101111010111100011100110101$  (In base 10 this number is 3,991,652,149).

Now consider  $n \bmod p$  where  $p$  is equal to 127. The expression  $n \bmod 127$  can be calculated by division as follows:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 31430331 \\
 127 \overline{) 3991652149} \\
 \underline{381} \phantom{00000000} \\
 181 \phantom{00000000} \\
 \underline{127} \phantom{00000000} \\
 546 \phantom{00000000} \\
 \underline{508} \phantom{00000000} \\
 385 \phantom{00000000} \\
 \underline{381} \phantom{00000000} \\
 42 \phantom{00000000} \\
 \underline{0} \phantom{00000000} \\
 421 \phantom{00000000} \\
 \underline{381} \phantom{00000000} \\
 404 \phantom{00000000} \\
 \underline{381} \phantom{00000000} \\
 239 \phantom{00000000} \\
 \underline{127} \phantom{00000000} \\
 112
 \end{array}$$

The remainder 112 is the solution to  $n \bmod 127$ .

#### EXAMPLE 2

##### Mersenne Prime mod $p$ Arithmetic

In the present invention, when  $p$  is a Mersenne prime where  $p = 2^q - 1$ , the mod  $p$  arithmetic can be accomplished using only shifts and adds, with no division required. Consider again  $n \bmod p$  where  $n$  is 3,991,652,149 and  $p$  is 127. When  $p$  is 127,  $q$  is equal to 7, from  $p = 2^q - 1$ ;  $127 = 2^7 - 1 = 128 - 1 = 127$ .

The mod  $p$  arithmetic can be accomplished by using the binary form of  $n$ , namely 11101101111010111100011100110101. Referring to

FIG. 5, the shifts and adds are accomplished by first latching the  $q$  least significant bits (LSB's) 501 of  $n$ , namely 0110101. The  $q$  LSB's 502 of the remaining digits, namely 0001110, are then added to  $q$  digits 501, resulting in sum 503 (1000011). The next  $q$  LSB's 504 of  $n$ , (0101111), are added to sum 503, generating sum 505, (1110010). Bits 506 of  $n$  (1101111) are added to sum 505, to result in sum 507, (11100001).

The remaining bits 508 (1110), even though fewer in number than  $q$  bits, are added to sum 507 to generate sum 509 (11101111). This sum has greater than  $q$  bits. Therefore, the first  $q$  bits 510 (1101111) are summed with the next  $q$  bits 511 (in this case, the single bit 1), to generate sum 512 (1110000). This sum, having  $q$  or fewer bits, is the solution to  $n \bmod p$ .  $1110000 = 2^6 + 2^5 + 2^4 = 64 + 32 + 16 = 112$ .

Thus, the solution 112 to  $n \bmod 127$  is determined using only shifts and adds when an elliptic curve over a field of Mersenne primes is used. The use of Mersenne primes in conjunction with elliptic curve cryptosystems eliminates explicit divisions.

#### EXAMPLE 3

##### Fermat Number mod $p$ Arithmetic

In the present invention, when  $p$  is a Fermat number where  $p = 2^{2^q} + 1$ , the mod  $p$  arithmetic can be accomplished using only shifts, adds, and subtracts (a negative add), with no division required. Consider again  $n \bmod p$  where  $n$  is 3,991,652,149 and where  $p$  is now 257. When  $p$  is 257,  $q$  is equal to 8, from  $p = 2^{2^q} + 1$ ;  $257 = 2^8 + 1 = 256 + 1 = 257$ .

The mod  $p$  arithmetic can be accomplished by using the binary form of  $n$ , namely 11101101111010111100011100110101. Referring to FIG. 6, the shifts and adds are accomplished by first latching the  $q$  (8) least significant bits (LSB's) 601 (00110101). The next  $q$  LSB's 602 of the remaining digits, namely 11000111, are to be subtracted from  $q$  digits 601. To accomplish this, the 1's complement of bits 602 is generated and a 1 is added to the MSB side to indicate a negative number, resulting in bits 602' (100111000). This negative number 602' is added to bits 601 to generate result 603 (101101101). The next  $q$  LSB's 604 of  $n$ , (11101011), are added to sum 603, generating result 605, (1001011000). Bits 606 of  $n$  (11101101) are to be subtracted from result 605. Therefore, the 1's complement of bits 606 is generated and a negative sign bit of one is added on the MSB side to generate bits 606' (100010010). Bits 606' is added to result 605, to generate sum 607, (1101101010).

Sum 607 has more than  $q$  bits so the  $q$  LSB's are latched as bits 608 (01101010). The next  $q$  bits (in this case, only two bits, 11) are added to bits 608, generating sum 610 (01101101). This sum, having  $q$  or fewer bits, is the solution to  $n \bmod p$ .  $01101101 = 2^6 + 2^5 + 2^3 + 2^2 + 2^0 = 64 + 32 + 8 + 4 + 1 = 109$ .

#### EXAMPLE 4

##### Fast Class mod Arithmetic

In the present invention, when  $p$  is a number of the class  $p = 2^q - C$ , where  $C$  is an odd number and is relatively small, (e.g. no greater than the length of a digital word), the mod  $p$  arithmetic can be accomplished using only shifts and adds, with no division required. Consider again  $n \bmod p$  where  $n$  is 685 and where  $p$  is 13.

When  $p$  is 13,  $q$  is equal to 4 and  $C$  is equal to 3, from  $p = 2^q - C$ ;  $13 = 2^4 - 3 = 16 - 3 = 13$ .

The mod  $p$  arithmetic can be accomplished by using the binary form of  $n$ , namely 1010101101. Referring to FIG. 7, the shifts and adds are accomplished by first latching the  $q$  (4) least significant bits (LSB's) 701 of  $n$ , namely 1101. The remaining bits 702 (101010) are multiplied by  $C$  (3) to generate product 703 (1111110). Product 703 is added to bits 701 to generate sum 704 (10001011). The  $q$  least significant bits 705 (1011) of sum 704 are latched. The remaining bits 706 (1000) are multiplied by  $C$  to generate product 707 (11000). Product 707 is added to bits 705 to generate sum 708 (100011). The  $q$  least significant bits 709 (0011) of sum 708 are latched. The remaining bits 710 (10) are multiplied by  $C$  to generate product 711 (110). Product 711 is added to bits 709 to generate sum 712 (1001). Sum 712, having  $q$  or fewer bits, is the solution to  $n \bmod p$ .  $1001 = 2^3 + 2^0 = 8 + 1 = 9$ . 685 divided by 13 results in a remainder of 9. The fast class arithmetic provides the solution using only shifts, adds, and multiplies.

### SHIFT AND ADD IMPLEMENTATION

Fast Mersenne mod operations can be effected via a well known shift procedure. For  $p = 2^q - 1$  we can use:

$$x = (x \& p) + (x > q) \quad \text{Equation (17)}$$

a few times in order to reduce a positive  $x$  to the appropriate residue value in the interval 0 through  $p - 1$  inclusive. This procedure involves shifts and add operations only. Alternatively, we can represent any number  $x \pmod p$  by:

$$x = a + b2^{(q+1)/2} = (a, b) \quad \text{Equation (18)}$$

If another integer  $y$  be represented as  $(c, d)$ , we have:

$$xy \pmod p = (ac + 2bd, ad + bc) \quad \text{Equation (19)}$$

after which some trivial shift-add operations may be required to produce the correct reduced residue of  $xy$ .

To compute an inverse  $\pmod p$ , there are at least two ways to proceed. One is to use a binary form of the classical extended-GCD procedure. Another is to use a relational reduction scheme. The relational scheme works as follows:

Given  $p = 2^q - 1$ ,  $x \neq 0 \pmod p$ ,  
to return  $x^{-1} \pmod p$ :

- 1) Set  $(a, b) = (1, 0)$  and  $(y, z) = (x, p)$ ;
- 2) If  $(y = 0)$  return  $(z)$ ;
- 3) Find  $e$  such that  $2^e \parallel y$ ;
- 4) Set  $a = 2^{q-e} a \pmod p$ ;
- 5) If  $(y = 1)$  return  $(a)$ ;
- 6) Set  $(a, b) = (a + b, a - b)$  and  $(y, z) = (y + z, y - z)$ ;
- 7) Go to (2).

The binary extended-GCD procedure can be performed without explicit division via the operation  $[a/b]_2$ , defined as the greatest power of 2 not exceeding  $a/b$ :

Given  $p$ , and  $x \neq 0 \pmod p$ ,  
to return  $x^{-1} \pmod p$ :

- 1) If  $(x = 1)$  return  $(1)$ ;
- 2) Set  $(x, v_0) = (0, 1)$  and  $(u_1, v_1) = (p, x)$ ;
- 3) Set  $u_0 = [u_1/v_1]_2$ ;

4) Set  $(x, v_0) = (v_0, x - u_0 v_0)$  and  $(u_1, v_1) = (v_1, u_1 - u_0 v_1)$ ;

5) If  $(v_1 = 0)$  return  $(x)$ ; else go to (3).

The present invention may be implemented on any conventional or general purpose computer system. An example of one embodiment of a computer system for implementing this invention is illustrated in FIG. 4. A keyboard 410 and mouse 411 are coupled to a bi-directional system bus 419. The keyboard and mouse are for introducing user input to the computer system and communicating that user input to CPU 413. The computer system of FIG. 4 also includes a video memory 414, main memory 415 and mass storage 412, all coupled to bi-directional system bus 419 along with keyboard 410, mouse 411 and CPU 413. The mass storage 412 may include both fixed and removable media, such as magnetic, optical or magnetic optical storage systems or any other available mass storage technology. The mass storage may be shared on a network, or it may be dedicated mass storage. Bus 419 may contain, for example, 32 address lines for addressing video memory 414 or main memory 415. The system bus 419 also includes, for example, a 32-bit data bus for transferring data between and among the components, such as CPU 413, main memory 415, video memory 414 and mass storage 412. Alternatively, multiplex data/address lines may be used instead of separate data and address lines.

In the preferred embodiment of this invention, the CPU 413 is a 32-bit microprocessor manufactured by Motorola, such as the 68030 or 68040. However, any other suitable microprocessor or microcomputer may be utilized. The Motorola microprocessor and its instruction set, bus structure and control lines are described in MC68030 User's Manual, and MC68040 User's Manual, published by Motorola Inc. of Phoenix, Ariz.

Main memory 415 is comprised of dynamic random access memory (DRAM) and in the preferred embodiment of this invention, comprises 8 megabytes of memory. More or less memory may be used without departing from the scope of this invention. Video memory 414 is a dual-ported video random access memory, and this invention consists, for example, of 256 kbytes of memory. However, more or less video memory may be provided as well.

One port of the video memory 414 is coupled to video multiplexer and shifter 416, which in turn is coupled to video amplifier 417. The video amplifier 417 is used to drive the cathode ray tube (CRT) raster monitor 418. Video multiplexing shifter circuitry 416 and video amplifier 417 are well known in the art and may be implemented by any suitable means. This circuitry converts pixel data stored in video memory 414 to a raster signal suitable for use by monitor 418. Monitor 418 is a type of monitor suitable for displaying graphic images, and in the preferred embodiment of this invention, has a resolution of approximately  $1020 \times 832$ . Other resolution monitors may be utilized in this invention.

The computer system described above is for purposes of example only. The present invention may be implemented in any type of computer system or programming or processing environment.

### BLOCK DIAGRAM

FIG. 8 is a block diagram of the present invention. A sender, represented by the components within dashed line 801, encrypts a plaintext message  $P$  to a ciphertext message  $C$ . This message  $C$  is sent to a receiver, repre-

sented by the components within dashed line 802. The receiver 802 decrypts the ciphertext message C to recover the plaintext message P.

The sender 801 comprises an encryption/decryption means 803, an elliptic multiplier 805, and a private key source 807. The encryption/decryption means 803 is coupled to the elliptic multiplier 805 through line 809. The elliptic multiplier 805 is coupled to the private key source 807 through line 811.

The encryption/decryption means 804 of receiver 802 is coupled to elliptic multiplier 806 through line 810. The elliptic multiplier 806 is coupled to the private key source 808 through line 812.

The private key source 807 of the sender 801 contains the secure private password of the sender, "ourPri". Private key source 807 may be a storage register in a computer system, a password supplied by the sender to the cryptosystem when a message is sent, or even a coded, physical key that is read by the cryptosystem of FIG. 8 when a message is sent or received. Similarly, the private key source 808 of receiver 802 contains the secure private password of the receiver, namely, "theirPri".

A separate source 813 stores publicly known information, such as the public keys "ourPub" and "theirPub" of sender 801 and receiver 802, the initial point  $(x_1, y_1)$ , the field  $F_p$ , and curve parameter "a". This source of information may be a published directory, an on-line source for use by computer systems, or it may be transmitted between sender and receiver over a non-secure transmission medium. The public source 813 is shown symbolically connected to sender 801 through line 815 and to receiver 802 through line 814.

In operation, the sender and receiver generate a common one time pad for use as an enciphering and deciphering key in a secure transmission. The private key of the sender, ourPri, is provided to the elliptic multiplier 805, along with the sender's public key, theirPub. The elliptic multiplier 805 computes an enciphering key  $e_k$  from  $(\text{ourPri}) * (\text{theirPub}) \bmod p$ . The enciphering key is provided to the encryption/decryption means 803, along with the plaintext message P. The enciphering key is used with an encrypting scheme, such as the DES scheme or the elliptic curve scheme of the present invention, to generate a ciphertext message C. The ciphertext message is transmitted to the receiver 802 over a nonsecure channel 816.

The receiver 802 generates a deciphering key  $d_k$  using the receiver's private key, theirPri. TheirPri is provided from the private key source 808 to the elliptic multiplier 804, along with sender's public key, ourPub, (from the public source 813). Deciphering key  $d_k$  is generated from  $(\text{theirPri}) * (\text{ourPub}) \bmod p$ . The deciphering key  $d_k$  is equal to the enciphering key  $e_k$  due to the abelian nature of the elliptic multiplication function. Therefore, the receiver 802 reverses the encryption scheme, using the deciphering key  $d_k$ , to recover the plaintext message P from the ciphertext message C.

The encryption/decryption means and elliptic multiplier of the sender 801 and receiver 802 can be implemented as program steps to be executed on a micro-processor.

### INVERSIONLESS PARAMETERIZATION

The use of fast class numbers eliminates division operations in mod  $p$  arithmetic operations. However, as illustrated by equations 13-16 above, the elliptic multiply operation "" requires a number of division opera-

tions to be performed. The present invention reduces the number of divisions required for elliptic multiply operations by selecting the initial parameterization to be inversionless. This is accomplished by selecting the initial point so that the "Y" terms are not needed.

In the present invention, both sender and recipient generate a mutual one-time pad, as a particular x-coordinate on the elliptic curve. By choosing the initial point  $(X_1, Y_1)$  appropriately, divisions in the process of establishing multiples  $n * (X_1, Y_1)$  are eliminated. In the steps that follow, the form

$$n * (X_m/Z_m) \quad \text{Equation (20)}$$

for integers  $n$ , denotes the coordinate  $(X_{n+m}/Z_{n+m})$ . For  $x=X/Z$  the x-coordinate of the multiple  $n(x, y)$  as  $X_n/Z_n$ , is calculated using a "binary ladder" method in accordance with the adding-doubling rules, which involve multiply mod operations:

If  $i \neq j$ :

$$X_{i+j} = Z_i - f(X_i X_j - Z_i Z_j)^2 \quad \text{Equation (21)}$$

$$Z_{i+j} = X_i - f(X_i Z_j - Z_i X_j)^2 \quad \text{Equation (22)}$$

Otherwise, if  $i = j$ :

$$X_{2i} = (X_i^2 - Z_i^2)^2 \quad \text{Equation (23)}$$

$$Z_{2i} = 4X_i Z_i (X_i^2 + aX_i Z_i + Z_i^2) \quad \text{Equation (24)}$$

These equations do not require divisions, simplifying the calculations when the present invention is implemented in the present preferred embodiment. This is referred to as "Montgomery parameterization" or "inversionless parameterization" (due to the absence of division operations), and is described in "Speeding the Pollard and Elliptic Curve Methods of Factorization" Montgomery, P. 1987 *Math. Comp.*, 48 (243-264). When the field is simply  $F_p$  this scheme enables us to compute multiples  $n x$  via multiplication, addition, and (rapid) Mersenne mod operations. This also holds when the field is  $F_{p^2}$ . Because  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  for any Mersenne prime  $p$ , we may represent any  $X_i$  or  $Z_i$  as a complex integer, proceeding with complex arithmetic for which both real and imaginary post-multiply components can be reduced rapidly (mod  $p$ ). We also choose  $Z_1 = 1$ , so that the initial point on the curve is  $(X_1/1, y)$  where  $y$  will not be needed.

Using both fast class numbers and inversionless parameterization, a public key exchange using the method of the present invention can proceed as follows. In the following example, the prime is a Mersenne prime. However, any of the fast class numbers described herein may be substituted.

1) At "our" end, use parameter  $a$ , to compute a public key:  $\text{ourPub} \in F_{p^k}$

$$(X/Z) = \text{ourPri} * (X_1/1)$$

$$\text{ourPub} = XZ^{-1}$$

2) At "their" end, use parameter  $a$ , to compute a public key:  $\text{theirPub} \in F_{p^k}$

$$(X/Z) = \text{theirPri} * (X_1/1)$$

$$\text{theirPub} = XZ^{-1}$$

3) The two public keys  $\text{ourPub}$  and  $\text{theirPub}$  are published, and therefore are known.

4) Compute a one-time pad:  $\text{ourPad} \in F_{p^k}$

$$(X/Z) = \text{ourPri} * (\text{theirPub}/1)$$

$$\text{ourPad} = XZ^{-1}$$

5) Compute a one-time pad:  $\text{theirPad} \in F_{p^k}$

$(X/Z) = \text{theirPri}^\circ(\text{ourPub}/1)$   
 $\text{theirPad} = XZ^{-1}$

The usual key exchange has been completed, with  
 $\text{ourPad} = \text{theirPad}$

Message encryption/decryption between "our" end  
 and "their" end may proceed according to this mutual  
 pad.

#### FFT MULTIPLY

For very large exponents, such as  $q > 5000$ , it is ad-  
 vantageous to perform multiplication by taking Fourier  
 transforms of streams of digits. FFT multiply works  
 accurately, for example on a 68040-based NeXTstation,  
 for general operations  $xy \pmod{p}$  where  $p = 2^q - 1$  has  
 no more than  $q = 2^{20}$  (about one million) bits. Further-  
 more, for Mersenne  $p$  there are further savings when  
 one observes that order- $q$  cyclic convolution of binary  
 bits is equivalent to multiplication  $\pmod{2^q - 1}$ . The use  
 of FFT multiply techniques results in the ability to  
 perform multiply-mod in a time roughly proportional to  
 $q \log q$ , rather than  $q^2$ .

Elliptic curve algebra can be sped up *intrinsically*  
 with FFT techniques. Let  $X$  denote generally the Fou-  
 rier transform of the digits of  $X$ , this transform being the  
 same one used in FFT multiplication. Then we can  
 compute coordinates from equations 21-24. To com-  
 pute  $X_{i+j}$  for example, we can use five appropriate  
 transforms,  $(X_i, X_j, Z_i, Z_j, \text{ and } Z_{i-j})$  (some of which can  
 have been stored previously) to create the transform:

$$X_{i+j} = Z_i - (X_i X_j - Z_i Z_j)^2$$

In this way the answer  $X_{i+j}$  can be obtained via 7  
 FFT's. (Note that the usual practice of using 2 FFT's  
 for squaring and 3 FFT's for multiplication results in 11  
 FFT's for the "standard" FFT approach). The ratio  
 7/11 indicates a significant savings for the intrinsic  
 method. In certain cases, such as when  $p$  is a Mersenne  
 prime and one also has an errorless number-theoretic  
 transform available, one can save spectra from the past  
 and stay in spectral space for the duration of long calcu-  
 lations; in this way reducing times even further.

A flow diagram illustrating the operation of the pres-  
 ent invention when using fast class numbers, inversion-  
 less parameterization and FFT multiply operations is  
 illustrated in FIG. 9. At step 901, a fast class number  $p$   
 is chosen where  $p = 2^q - C$ . The term  $q$  is the bit depth  
 of the encryption scheme. The greater the number of  
 bits, the greater the security. For large values of  $q$ , FFT  
 multiply operations are used to calculate  $p$ . The term  $p$   
 is made publicly available.

At step 902, the element  $k$  for the field  $F_p$  is chosen  
 and made public. At step 903, an initial point  $(X_1/Z)$  on  
 the elliptic curve is selected. By selecting the initial  
 point to be inversionless, costly divides are avoided.  
 The initial point is made public. The curve parameter  $a$   
 is chosen at step 904 and made public.

At step 905, the sender computes  $X_1/Z = \text{our-}$   
 $\text{Pri}^\circ(X_1/1)$  using inversionless parameterization. The  
 sender's public key is generated  $\text{ourPub} = (XZ^{-1}) \pmod{p}$ .  
 The receiver's public key  $\text{theirPub} = (XZ^{-1}) \pmod{p}$ ,  
 is generated at step 906.

A one time pad for the sender,  $\text{ourPad}$ , is generated at  
 step 907.  $X/Z = (\text{ourPri})^\circ(\text{theirPub}/1)$ .  $\text{our-}$   
 $\text{Pad} = XZ^{-1} \pmod{p}$ . At step 908, a one time pad for the  
 receiver,  $\text{theirPad}$ , is generated.  $X/Z = (\text{theirPri})^\circ(\text{our-}$   
 $\text{Pub}/1)$ .  $\text{theirPad} = XZ^{-1} \pmod{p}$ . The calculation of  
 $\text{ourPad}$  and  $\text{theirPad}$  utilizes FFT multiplies to elimi-  
 nate the need to calculate the inversion  $Z^{-1}$ . At step  
 909, the sender converts a plaintext message  $P$  to a  
 ciphertext message  $C$  using  $\text{ourPad}$ . The ciphertext  
 message  $C$  is transmitted to the receiver. At step 910,  
 the receiver recovers the plaintext message  $P$  by deci-  
 phering the ciphertext message  $C$  using  $\text{theirPad}$ .

#### FEE SECURITY

The algebraic factor  $M_{89} = 2^{89} - 1$ , which is a Mer-  
 senne prime, occurs with "natural" statistics when the  
 elliptic curve method (ECM) was employed. This was  
 shown in attempts to complete the factorization of  
 $M_{445} = 2^{445} - 1$  (this entry in the Cunningham Table  
 remains unresolved as of this writing). In other words,  
 for random parameters  $a$  the occurrence  $k(X_1/1) = 0$   
 for elliptic curves over  $F_p$  with  $p = M_{89}$  was statistically  
 consistent with the asymptotic estimate that the time to  
 find the factor  $M_{89}$  of  $M_{445}$  be  $O(\exp(\sqrt{2 \log p \log \log p}))$ .  
 These observations in turn suggested that finding  
 the group order over  $F_p$  is not "accidentally" easier for  
 Mersenne primes  $p$ , given the assumption of random  $a$   
 parameters.

Secondly, to check that the discrete logarithm prob-  
 lem attendant to FEE is not accidentally trivial, it can  
 be verified, for particular  $a$  parameters, that for some  
 bounded set of integers  $N$

$$(p^N - 1)(X_1/1) \neq 0$$

The inequality avoids the trivial reduction of the  
 discrete logarithm evaluation to the equivalent evalua-  
 tion over a corresponding finite field. Failures of the  
 inequality are extremely rare, in fact no non-trivial in-  
 stances are known at this time for  $q > 89$ .

The present invention provides a number of advan-  
 tages over prior art schemes, particularly factoring  
 schemes such as the RSA scheme. The present inven-  
 tion can provide the same security with fewer bits,  
 increasing speed of operation. Alternatively, for the  
 same number of bits, the system of the present invention  
 provides greater security.

Another advantage of the present cryptosystem over  
 prior art cryptosystems is the distribution of private  
 keys. In prior art schemes such as RSA, large prime  
 numbers must be generated to create private keys. The  
 present invention does not require that the private key  
 be a prime number. Therefore, users can generate their  
 own private keys, so long as a public key is generated  
 and published using correct and publicly available pa-  
 rameters  $p, F_p, (X_1/Z)$  and "a". A user cannot gener-  
 ate its own private key in the RSA system.

The present invention can be implemented in the  
 programming language C. The following are examples  
 of programmatic interfaces (.h files) and test programs  
 (.c files) suitable for implementing the present inven-  
 tion.

/\* fee.h

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\*/

```
#import "giants.h"
```

```
#define DEFAULT_VERSION 1 #define DEFAULT_DEPTH 4 #define DEFAULT_SEED 0
#define MAX_DEPTH 22 #define FEE_TOKEN "scicompq" #define BUF_SIZE 8192
#define KEY_TOO_SHORT 1 #define ILLEGAL_CHARS_IN_KEY 2 #define BAD_TOKEN
3 #define VERSION_PARAM_MISMATCH 4 #define DEPTH_PARAM_MISMATCH 5
#define SEED_PARAM_MISMATCH 6 #define EXP_PARAM_MISMATCH 7 #define
A_PARAM_MISMATCH 8 #define X1_PARAM_MISMATCH 9
```

```
typedef giant padkey;
```

```
typedef struct {
    int version; int depth; int seed; int exp; int a; int x1;
    padkey x;
} keystruct; typedef keystruct *key;
```

```
int hexstr_illegal(char *pub_hex); /* Returns non-zero iff pub_hex is
not a valid hex string. */
```

```
void hexstr_to_key(char *str, key public); /* Jams public (assumed pre-
malloced) with hex str contents. */
```

```
char * new_hexstr_from_key(key public); /* Mallocs and returns a hex
string representing public. */
```

```
key new_public_from_private(char *private, int depth, int seed); /*
Mallocs and returns a new public key. If private==NULL, depth and seed
are ignored, and the returned key is simply malloc'ed but without
meaningful parameters. If private is a valid string, depth and seed are
used to establish correct elliptic parameters. depth is 0 to MAX_DEPTH
inclusive, while seed = DEFAULT_SEED usually, but may be chosen to be
any integer in order to change the encryption parameters for the given
depth. The depth alone determines the time to generate one-time pads.
*/
```

```
char * new_hexstr_from_pad(); /* Malloc's and returns a hex string,
null-terminated, representing the one-time pad. This function is usually
called after a make_one_time_pad() call.
*/
```

```
void generate_byte_pad(char *byte_pad, int len); /* Jams byte_pad with
len bytes of the one-time pad. There is no null termination; just len
bytes are modified.
*/
```

```
int make_one_time_pad(char *private, key public); /* Calculate the
internal one-time pad. */
```

```
void free_key(key pub); /* De-allocate an allocated key. */
```

```
void NXWritePublic(NXStream *out, key my_pub); /* Write a key to out
stream. */
```

```
void NXReadPublic(NXStream *in, key pub); /* Read a key from in stream.
*/
```

```
int keys_inconsistent(key publ, key pub2); /* Return non-zero if publ,
pub2 have inconsistent parameters.
*/
```

```

int encrypt_stream(NXStream *in, NXStream *out, key their_pub, key
my_pub, char *my_pri); /* Encrypt in to out. If my_pub!=NULL, a
consistency check for equivalent parameters with their_pub is performed,
with possible non-zero error returned (and encryption aborted).
Otherwise, when my_pub==NULL, an internal key is temporarily created for
insertion into the out stream.
*/

```

```

int decrypt_stream(NXStream *in, NXStream *out, char *my_pri); /*
Decrypt in to out. Non-zero error value is returned if an internal token
(that should have been present in the in stream) is not properly
decrypted.
*/

```

```

void set_crypt_params(int *depth, int *exp, int *a, int *x1, int *seed);

```

```

void str_to_giant(char *str, giant g);

```

```

int ishex(char *s);

```

```

void byte_to_hex(int b, char *s);

```

```

void hex_to_byte(char *s, int *b);

```

```

int hexstr_to_int(char **s);

```

```

int int_to_hexstr(int n, char *str);

```

```

int giant_to_hexstr(giant g, char *str);

```

```

void make_base(int exp);

```

```

void init_elliptic();

```

```

padkey get_pad();

```

```

void ell_even(giant x1, giant z1, giant x2, giant z2, int a, int q);

```

```

void ell_odd(giant x1, giant z1, giant x2, giant z2, giant xor, giant
zor, int q);

```

```

int scompg(int n, giant g);

```

```

void elliptic(giant xx, giant zz, giant k, int a, int q);

```

```

unsigned char byt(padkey x, int k);

```

```

int version_param(key pub);

```

```

int depth_param(key pub);

```

```

int seed_param(key pub);

```

```

int exp_param(key pub);

```

```

int a_param(key pub);

```

```

int x1_param(key pub);

```

```

/* keytest.c
   Test program for public key exchange, Usage: > keytest depth
   MyPrivate TheirPrivate

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*/

#import <stdio.h> #import <streams/streams.h> #import "fee.h"

main(int argc, char **argv) {
    key my_pub, their_pub; char *my_pub_str, *their_pub_str; char
    *padstr; int depth;

    if(argc<4) {
        fprintf(stderr, "Usage: keytest depth MyPrivate
        TheirPrivate\n"); exit(0);
    }

    depth = atoi(argv[1]); my_pub =
    new_public_from_private(argv[2], depth, DEFAULT_SEED);
    their_pub = new_public_from_private(argv[3], depth,
    DEFAULT_SEED);

    my_pub_str = new_hexstr_from_key(my_pub); their_pub_str =
    new_hexstr_from_key(their_pub);

    printf("My Public Key:\n%s\n",my_pub_str); printf("Their
    Public Key:\n%s\n",their_pub_str);

    free(my_pub_str); free(their_pub_str);

    make_one_time_pad(argv[2], their_pub); padstr =
    new_hexstr_from_pad(); printf("One-time pad, using My Private
    and Their Public:\n%s\n",padstr); free(padstr);

    make_one_time_pad(argv[3], my_pub); padstr =
    new_hexstr_from_pad(); printf("One-time pad, using Their
    Private and My Public:\n%s\n",padstr); free(padstr);

    free_key(my_pub); free_key(their_pub);

    printf("The two one-time pads should be equivalent.\n");
}

/* solencrypt.c
   Solitaire encryption for personal files, Usage: > solencrypt <depth>
   file file.ell Private Key:

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*/

#import <stdio.h> #import <streams/streams.h> #import "fee.h"

main(int argc, char **argv) {
    key my_pub; int depth; char *my_pri; NXStream *inStream,
    *outStream;

    if(argc<3) {

```

```

fprintf(stderr, "Usage: solencrypt <depth> file file.ell\nPrivate Key:
\nwhere depth is an integer 0 through 22, default = 4.\n");
exit(0); } if(argc==4) depth = atoi(argv[1]); else depth =
DEFAULT_DEPTH;

```

```

/* Next, open the streams. */

```

```

inStream = NXMapFile(argv[argc-2],NX_READONLY); outStream =
NXOpenMemory (NULL,0,NX_WRITEONLY);

```

```

/* Next, get private key, make public key, encrypt stream, blank the
private key in memory. */

```

```

my_pri = (char *) getpass("Private Key: "); my_pub =
new_public_from_private(my_pri, depth, DEFAULT_SEED);
encrypt_stream(inStream, outStream, my_pub, my_pub, my_pri);
bzero(my_pri, strlen(my_pri)); free_key(my_pub);

```

```

/* Next, flush and write. */

```

```

NXFlush(inStream); NXFlush(outStream); NXSaveToFile(outStream,
argv[argc-1]); NXClose(inStream); NXCloseMemory(outStream,
NX_FREEBUFFER);

```

```

)

```

```

/* soldecrypt.c

```

```

Solitaire encryption for personal files, Usage: > soldecrypt file.ell
file Private Key:

```

```

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```

```

*/

```

```

#import <stdio.h> #import <streams/streams.h> #import "fee.h"

```

```

main(int argc, char **argv) {
    char *my_pri; NXStream *inStream, *outStream; int err;

    if(argc<3) {
        fprintf(stderr, "Usage: soldecrypt file.ell
        file\nPrivate Key: \n"); exit(0);
    }

```

```

/* Next, open the streams. */

```

```

inStream = NXMapFile(argv[1],NX_READONLY); outStream =
NXOpenMemory (NULL,0,NX_WRITEONLY);

```

```

/* Next, decrypt the stream and blank the private key in memory. */

```

```

my_pri = (char *) getpass("Private Key: "); err =
decrypt_stream(inStream, outStream, my_pri); bzero(my_pri,
strlen(my_pri)); if(err) {
    fprintf(stderr, "Error %d: bad private key.\n", err);
    exit(0);
}

```

```

/* Next, write and close. */

```

```

NXSaveToFile(outStream, argv[2]); NXClose(inStream);
NXCloseMemory(outStream, NX_FREEBUFFER);

```

I claim:

1. A method for electronically generating a secure key comprising the steps of:  
 providing a first private key source for providing a first private key;  
 providing a second private key source for providing a second private key;  
 generating a first public key in a public key source by performing an elliptic multiplication of said first private key and a point on an elliptic curve;  
 generating a second public key in said public key source by performing an elliptic multiplication of said second private key and said point;  
 generating an enciphering key in a first elliptic multiplying means by performing an elliptic multiplication of said first private key and said second public key;  
 generating a deciphering key in a second elliptic multiplying means by performing an elliptic multiplication of said second private key and said first public key.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said point is a point on an elliptic curve over a finite field  $F_p$ , where  $p$  is one of a class of numbers such that mod  $p$  arithmetic is performed in a processor using only shift and add operations.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein  $p$  is given by  $2^q - C$ , where  $C$  is a binary number having a length no greater than 32 bits.
4. The method of claim 2 wherein  $p$  is a Mersenne prime given by  $2^q - 1$ .
5. The method of claim 2 wherein  $p$  is a Fermat number given by  $2^q + 1$  and  $q$  is given by  $2^m$ .
6. The method of claim 1 wherein said point on said elliptic curve is  $(X_1, Y_1)$ .
7. The method of claim 1 wherein said point on said elliptic curve is  $(X_1/Z_1, Y)$  where  $Z_1=1$  and  $n^*(X_m/Z_m)$  is an elliptic multiplication and denotes the coordinate  $(X_{n+m}/Z_{n+m})$ .
8. The method of claim 7 wherein Fast Fourier Transforms are used to compute  $X_{n+m}$ .
9. The method of claim 8 where  $X$  denotes the Fourier transform of the digits of  $X$ , and,  $X_n, X_m, Z_n, Z_m$ , and  $Z_{n+m}$  denote the Fourier transforms of the digits of  $X_n, X_m, Z_n, Z_m$ , and  $Z_{n+m}$  respectively and;

$$X_{n+m} = Z_{n-m}(X_n X_m - Z_n Z_m)^2$$

10. The method of claim 1 further including encrypting means coupled to said elliptic multiplying means and receiving a plaintext message from a message source, said encrypting means for generating a ciphertext message using said enciphering key.
11. The method of claim 10 further including decrypting means coupled said encrypting means and said second elliptic multiplying means, said decrypting means for receiving said ciphertext message and decoding said plaintext message using said deciphering key.
12. The method of claim 1 wherein said first public key is given by

$$(first\ private\ key)^*(X_1, Y_1) = first\ public\ key$$

where

\* is an elliptic multiplication,

$(X_1, Y_1)$  is a point on an elliptic curve over a finite field  $F_p$ , and

$p = 2^q - C$ .

13. The method of claim 12 wherein said second public key is given by:

$$(second\ private\ key)^*(X_1, Y_1) = second\ public\ key.$$

14. A method for electronically generating a secure key comprising the step of:

providing a first private key source for providing a first private key;  
 providing a second private key source for providing a second private key;

generating a first public key in a public key source by performing an elliptic multiplication of said first private key and a point, wherein said point is a point on an elliptic curve over a finite field  $F_p$  and  $p$  is a Mersenne prime given by  $2^q - 1$  and where mod  $p$  operations are performed using only shift and add operations;

generating a second public key in said public key source by performing an elliptic multiplication of said second private key and said point;

generating an enciphering key in a first elliptic multiplying means by performing an elliptic multiplication of said first private key and said second public key;

generating a deciphering key in a second elliptic multiplying means by performing an elliptic multiplication of said private key and said first public key.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein said mod  $p$  operations are accomplished by:

shifting  $q$  LSB's of a binary number and adding the shifted  $q$  LSB's to the remaining  $q$  LSB's to generate a sum;

repeating the previous step on the sum until a sum is generated of  $q$  or fewer bits.

16. A method for electronically generating a secure key comprising the steps of:

providing a first private key source for providing a first private key;

providing a second private key source for providing a second private key;

generating a first public key in a public key source by performing an elliptic multiplication of said first private key and a point, wherein said point is a point on an elliptic curve over a finite field  $F_p$  and  $p$  is a Fermat number given by  $2^q + 1$  and  $q$  is given by  $2^m$  and where mod  $p$  operations are performed using only shift, multiply and add operations;

generating a second public key in said public key source by performing an elliptic multiplication of said second private key and said point;

generating an enciphering key in a first elliptic multiplying means by performing an elliptic multiplication of said first private key and said second public key;

generating a deciphering key in a second elliptic multiplying means by performing an elliptic multiplication of said second private key and said first public key.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein mod p operations are accomplished on a binary number by shifting q bits and alternately subtracting and adding next successive groups of q bits until the resultant has q or fewer bits.

18. A method for electronically generating a secure key comprising the steps of:

providing a first private key source for providing a first private key;

providing a second private key source for providing a second private key;

generating a first public key in public key source by performing an elliptic multiplication of said first private key and a point, wherein said point is a point on an elliptic curve over a finite field  $F_p$  and p is given by  $2^q - C$ , where C is a binary number having a length no greater than 32 bits and where mod p operations are performed using only shift,

subtract and add operations;

generating a second public key in said public key source by performing an elliptic multiplication of said second private key and said point;

generating an enciphering key in a first elliptic multiplying means by performing an elliptic multiplication of said first private key and said second public key;

generating a deciphering key in a second elliptic multiplying means by performing an elliptic multiplication of said second private key and said first public key.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein mod p operations are accomplished by:

(a) latching q bits of a binary number;

(b) multiplying the remainder of said binary number by C to generate a product;

(c) adding said product to said q bits to generate a sum;

(d) repeating steps (a)–(c) on said sum until q or fewer bits remain.

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